



Southern Stars Retreat 2023

"Sea & Sunshine at the River"

Recap by Dru Woodward

Our 32nd Annual Laughlin Retreat "Sea & Sunshine at the River" on August 12th & 13th was FABULOUS!

We had 25 attendees and great teachers; Helen Castenada, Jan Dietman, Deborah Shaphran, Dru Woodward. Many pictures besides the ones in this article have already been posted to our IADCCT Facebook Groups..so be sure to check them out!



Teachers: Helen



Jan



Denise



Deborah

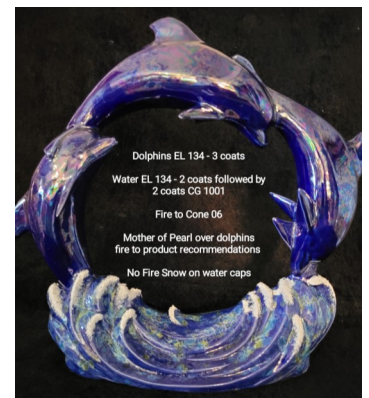
Once again we had a couple of gals that had never attended before and according to them they had a great time and will be back:) It's always great to hear that...it's what we, Southern Stars, are always striving for; teaching others-encouraging newbies-keeping ceramics alive and giving the most education possible for the lowest price possible. Our goal is to just break even moneywise and we have continued to do that yearly with the help of our silent auction proceeds and generous donations. This year was a little tough and we had to scale back luncheon menus once again to sit down instead of our normal buffet but the food was still very good AND the camaraderie couldn't have been better.

The projects taught were FUN, took just the amount of time we had planned and I'm pretty sure most of us finished them in class or during our Sunday am catch up session. You can see by the pictures that they all symbolized our Sea and Sunshine theme beautifully! Thanks to all our teachers for volunteering>Deborah and Vicki (her partner) even donated the bisque fish plates! ALSO a BIG THANKS to MAYCO, their entire staff, Colleen Cary-President and CEO, and Alyssa Zumpone- Project Coordinator for supplying ALL the color along with the bisque for Helen and Jan's projects. They also were very generous with new literature AND every one got to take home a pint of Stroke & Coat as well as a jar of Clear Brushing Glaze and Elements Sea Green Glaze.

This year our social evening included a quick project taught by Dru Woodward with the Sponge Its (manufactured by Rachel Byass in the UK). Afterwards we partook in some games including Ocean Bingo, Sea Word Scramble then Shark Gun Sharpshooter! All this FUN activity while wearing cute sea creature party hats.



We would also like to give special Thanks to Jan Dietman for making all the table centerpieces....they were fabulous with Mayco glaze combos>here is a picture and what she used on each:



Mark your calendars now for next year.....our 2024 Laughlin Retreat will be held August 10th & 11th.